

## Supporting you with the cost-of-living

The Albanese Government is constantly focused on managing the economy, creating jobs and providing support in tough times. **Here is just a snapshot of recent measures:**

### Building a better future for all Australians

#### ✓ Labor's tax cuts to benefit Hotham

We're delivering a tax cut for every taxpayer in Hotham starting on 1 July. That's around 86,000 who will receive a tax break. The average tax cut will be \$1,411.

#### ✓ Creating more jobs

New analysis shows that an average of more than 1,000 jobs have been created each day under the Albanese Government - the highest daily average on record for an Australian government.

#### ✓ Cheaper medicines

We've made another 94 medicines available as 60-day prescriptions. This means you can pick up two months of eligible medicines for the cost of one.

#### ✓ Expanding Paid Parental Leave

Paid Parental Leave will increase from 20 to 26 weeks by 2026 - a full six months - with the first increase starting from 1 July this year. This is on top of Federal's Labor's plan to pay superannuation on Paid Parental Leave from 1 July 2025.

#### ✓ A better deal at the supermarket

We're strengthening the rules to make our supermarkets as competitive as they can be, so Australians get the best prices possible.

#### ✓ Bringing manufacturing home to Australia

Labor's Future Made in Australia's Act will invest in manufacturing, clean energy, skills and infrastructure to power a new generation of jobs in our regions and suburbs.



### Hotham Community Survey: *Have your say*

The 2024 Hotham Community Survey is now open. For those in Melbourne's south east, I want to hear your views on issues you care about and how I can represent you in Parliament. Share your thoughts and be in the running for a \$100 retail gift card.

To have your say, scan me or visit:

[www.ClareONeil.com/survey](http://www.ClareONeil.com/survey)



### Join us at our Hotham NDIS Forum



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is important to so many in Hotham.

Please join us for a forum with The Hon Bill Shorten MP, Minister for the NDIS.

This forum will be for anyone wanting to better understand the care and support they deserve - or to just to learn more. It will also be an opportunity for Minister Shorten to gain an insight into our community's concerns, challenges and wishes.

**Date: in June. Register for details. Accessible venue.**

To register for this forum or to share your feedback, scan me or visit:

[www.ClareONeil.com/NDIS](http://www.ClareONeil.com/NDIS)

Alternatively, contact my office for help using the contact information below.



### Do you live in our Hotham community?

You can contact me for help with Federal Government services - like Centrelink, aged care and the NDIS - using the contact information below.



## Clare O'Neil MP Federal Member for Hotham

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## STANDING UP FOR HOTHAM

NEWS FROM CLARE O'NEIL MP

### AUTUMN 2024

As always, I love to check in this way every few months to keep you in the loop on what's been happening in Hotham (lots of community events!) and what's to come (a NDIS forum - more information inside!)

I know from my discussions around Hotham, life remains tough right now. Staying ahead of growing costs continues to cause stress. It's why the Albanese Labor Government and I have made cost-of-living support our priority, like with the upcoming tax cuts.

We are on the countdown to Albo's tax cuts for all Australian taxpayers starting 1 July. There's more information on that in this newsletter, as well as other measures.

During February, a lot of Hotham was affected by the terrible storms that swept across Melbourne's south east. The severe weather created significant damage and I know it was a terrifying experience for many - especially as it hit when most schools, including my children's one, were finishing up for the day.

It's times like this that our community really shines. Thank you to everyone who pulled together, including our local Victoria State Emergency Services and volunteers who worked around the clock during the cleanup and recovery.

Finally, there have been a few important events, cultural festivities and religious periods the last few months for our locals. Whatever you celebrate, best wishes to you!

*P.S. Make sure you take part in our Hotham community survey to have your say. QR code in newsletter.*

*P.P.S. The QR code to register for our NDIS forum is also inside.*

- Clare

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR HOTHAM



## Granting innovation in Hotham

Optiscan Imaging in Mulgrave was recently recognised as part of the Cooperative Research Centres Projects Grants Program with a \$3 million grant.

A miniature digital microscopy probe powered by AI means specialists can see in real-time and remotely what is happening with patients.

“ **The \$3 million CRC-P grant will significantly assist with our R&D efforts and accelerate our work.** – Dr Camile Farah, CEO of Optiscan Imaging



## Celebrating the Greek & Australian connection

As Hotham has one of the largest Greek communities in Australia, I'm a proud co-Chair of the Parliamentary Friends of Greek Australians.

Alongside the Prime Minister, His Eminence Archbishop Makarios, the new Ambassador of Greece to Australia and many Greek Australian leaders, we recently recognised the wonderful contribution of Greek Australians on our nation.



## Remembering our ANZACS

I want to share the story of a Hotham local who works hard to preserve the stories of our veterans.

Jim Claven OAM received the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2024 Australia Day Honours for his contribution to veteran services and community history – with a focus on the connection between Australia and Greece.

“ **The story of Lemnos or Imbros and their roles in Australia's Anzac story brought Australians and Greeks together and created bonds in communities across Australia – and the community of Hotham is no different.**’ – Jim Claven, OAM

You can read Jim's full interview – including two local stories – at my website: [www.clareoneil.com](http://www.clareoneil.com)



## Hotham Highlights



Helping to launch the 2024 Springvale Lunar New Year Festival – now in its 32<sup>nd</sup> year!



Dropping in to see the South East Community Links' new Youth Links hub in Noble Park (and their amazing mural!).



Presenting the new captains at Heather Hill Primary School in Springvale with their leadership badges.



Celebrating the 50-year birthday of Monash-Oakleigh Community Support and Information – or MOCSIS.



Presenting Amsleigh Park Primary School in Oakleigh East with new flags to fly proudly in their yard.



Marking International Women's Day with Sacred Heart Girls' College in Hughesdale. Supporting Monash Health Foundation at the Buddhist Flower Ceremony at Wat Buddhangersi in Springvale South.



Celebrating the whole team who made the award-winning art show at Noble Park Community Centre possible.